



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Ashby III et al.

Serial No. 09/747,274

Filed: December 21, 2000

For: APPARATUS, SYSTEM AND METHOD
FOR RECORDING AND/OR
RETRIEVING AUDIO INFORMATION

Group Art Unit: 2654

Examiner: T. Smits

Atty. Dkt. No. 5007-00700

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope
addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313, on the date indicated below:

December 12, 2003
Date

Kevin L. Daffer

TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

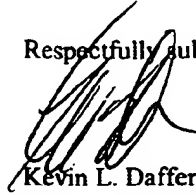
Dear Sir/Madam:

Transmitted herewith are the following:

- (1) Amendment After Allowance;
- (2) Supplemental Declaration; and
- (3) Original Patent No. 5,852,803.

No fees are required; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which
may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Conley Rose, P.C. Deposit Account No. 03-2769/5007-
00700.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin L. Daffer
Reg. No. 34,146
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Conley Rose, P.C.
P.O. Box 684908
Austin, TX 78768-4908
(512) 476-1400
Date: December 12, 2003

comply with MPEP 1453, the following claims 5, 12, 18, 24, 29, and 35 containing the amendatory material, are completely underlined to indicate their "new" status when compared to the original, issued patent.

5. An instructional apparatus, comprising:

a voice recorder capable of recording a vocal message as telephone quality voice input;

a memory medium storing the vocal message prerecorded as telephone quality voice input; and

a playback terminal linked by a transmissive path to the memory medium, wherein the playback terminal is adapted to reproducibly retrieve the vocal message from the memory medium upon receiving from a bar code reader a bar code signal corresponding to the vocal message, wherein the bar code signal results from scanning of a bar code label attachable to a product, and wherein the vocal message is indicative of an identifiable characteristic associated with the product.

12. A method for providing product information, said method comprising:

recording a vocal message as telephone quality voice input;

receiving a bar code signal from a bar code reader, wherein the bar code signal results from scanning of a bar code label attachable to a product; and

retrieving the prerecorded vocal message corresponding to the bar code signal from a memory medium, wherein the vocal message is prerecorded as telephone quality voice input, and wherein the vocal message is indicative of an identifiable characteristic associated with the product.

18. An instructional apparatus, comprising:

a voice recorder capable of recording a vocal message as non-synthesized audio signal;

a memory medium storing the prerecorded, non-synthesized audio signal; and

a playback terminal linked by a transmissive path to the memory medium, wherein the playback terminal is adapted to reproducibly retrieve the audio signal from the memory medium upon receiving from a bar code reader a bar code signal corresponding to the audio

signal, wherein the bar code signal results from scanning of a bar code label attachable to a product, and wherein the audio signal is indicative of an identifiable characteristic associated with the product.

24. A method for providing product information, said method comprising:

recording a vocal message as non-synthesized audio signal;

receiving a bar code signal from a bar code reader, wherein the bar code signal results from scanning of a bar code label attachable to a product; and

retrieving the prerecorded, non-synthesized audio signal corresponding to the bar code signal from a memory medium, wherein the audio signal is indicative of an identifiable characteristic associated with the product.

29. An instructional apparatus, comprising:

a bar code reader operable to scan a bar code label attachable to a product and produce a corresponding bar code signal;

a voice recorder capable of recording a vocal message as telephone quality voice input;

a listening station comprising a speaker and coupled to the bar code reader, wherein the listening station is adapted to receive the bar code signal from the bar code reader, to receive the vocal message corresponding to the bar code signal, and to reproduce and vocalize the vocal message, wherein the vocal message is prerecorded as telephone quality voice input, and wherein the vocal message is indicative of an identifiable characteristic associated with the product; and

a retrieval system remotely coupled to the listening station, wherein the retrieval system comprises a memory medium storing the vocal message, and wherein the retrieval system is adapted to reproducibly retrieve the vocal message from the memory medium and transmit the vocal message to the listening station.

35. An instructional apparatus, comprising:

a bar code reader operable to scan a bar code label attachable to a product and produce a corresponding bar code signal;

a voice recorder capable of recording a vocal message as non-synthesized audio signal

a listening station comprising a speaker and coupled to the bar code reader, wherein the listening station is adapted to receive the bar code signal from the bar code reader, to receive the non-synthesized prerecorded audio signal corresponding to the bar code signal, and to reproduce and make audible the audio signal, wherein the audio signal is indicative of an identifiable characteristic associated with the product; and

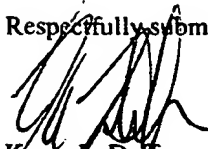
a retrieval system remotely coupled to the listening station, wherein the retrieval system comprises a memory medium storing the audio signal, and wherein the retrieval system is adapted to reproducibly retrieve the audio signal from the memory medium and transmit the audio signal to the listening station.

CONCLUSION

This response is believed to comply with the requirements of amendments made to new claims in a reissue application. All other new claims remain as originally submitted in the Preliminary Amendment filed December 21, 2000. Applicants believe that a Notice of Allowance should now be mailed for claims 1-39. If the Examiner has any questions, comments or suggestions, the undersigned attorney earnestly requests a telephone conference.

No fees are required for filing this amendment; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Conley Rose, P.C. Deposit Account No. 03-2769/5007-00700.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin L. Daffer

Reg. No. 34,146

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Conley Rose, P.C.
P.O. Box 684908
Austin, TX 78768-4908
(512) 476-1400
Date: December 12, 2003